



Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.

August 17, 1929 - October 14, 2017

Holton Joseph Gannon, Sr. passed away at home on the farm with family by his side on Saturday, October 14, 2017. He was 88.

Born on August 17, 1929, in Cordova, MD, to the late James Leo Gannon, Sr. and Ethel M. Rhodes, Holton lived a long, happy, fulfilled life. He was raised with his twelve brothers and sisters and graduated in 1948 from Cordova High School. He began working for DuPont in Seaford, DE. Drafted into the Army, Holton served during the Korean War from 1951 to 1953, then returned home to Cordova and began his career in farming by working on his father's farm.

On May 1, 1954, he married the love of his life, Kathryn Schauber of Chestertown. They would live in Cordova until they moved to a family farm on Murphy Road near Ingleside, MD, in 1956. Buying their first farm together in 1964 on Roe-Ingleside Road, Holton farmed it until 1980 when they purchased their last farm and built their home on Roberts Station Road near Church Hill. They resided in this home together and Holton continued to farm, harvesting his final crop on his final day.

In addition to farming, Holton worked for the Queen Anne's County Board of Education as a maintenance supervisor and a school bus driver, retiring in 1988. A very close second to farming, Holton enjoyed racing horses and owned, bred, and trained standardbred horses from 1969 to 2004. He took

pride in the fact that his horses made history in the industry, and he could share this joy with several of his brothers and his sons. He also enjoyed bowling, dancing, playing cards, and consuming his favorite homemade foods like ice cream, white potato pie, boiled apple dumplings, and cherry topped cookies.

He enjoyed time spent in Florida with his wife, Kathryn, as they would travel down in the winter and stay with various friends and family. Over the past two years, his grandsons and sons would spend a week at Disney with him. He was able, with the help of the grandchildren, to check off some of his bucket list items by sitting on the sidelines of an NFL game and driving a Corvette. He took great pride in the successes and accomplishments of his children and grandchildren, including the military service of three of his grandchildren. He made many good friends as a member of the Ruritan Club and as an active member of Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church. He gained pride and enjoyment from maintaining the Catholic cemetery in Church Hill, where many of Kathryn's family are interred.

Holton leaves behind his very devoted wife, life-long partner, and love of 63 years, Kathryn Schauber Gannon. This bond was a true testament of love. His six children with their spouses: Joe and Sue Gannon, Loretta Gannon, Bradford and Ellen Gannon, Lawrence and Betty Jane Gannon, Monica and Kip Matthews and Wanda and Shane Hampton shared many good times with their father and benefitted from the love and wisdom he provided. His 17 grandchildren, their spouses, partners and children will forever have Pop Pop's love and memory to keep him alive in their hearts, including Matt, Becky and Ben Gannon; Chris Gannon; Ian Denis, Elaine, Bradley and Rylie Barbarick; Dr. Sara, Shawn, Connor, Caleb, Owen, Natalie and Andrew Martin; Lauren Gannon, Britney Gannon, Jackie, Dana and Julia Sells; Spc. Lindsey Gannon, Rachel Gannon, Josh Gannon; Marlo, Nick, Cole and Olivia Coppage, Mark, Sarah and Liberty Wade, Michael Wade and Emily Murray;

Bob Ford and Tom Ford.

His first grandson, Brian Denis, passed away tragically three years ago, but always said, "Pop Pop is superhuman. He doesn't ever let anything stop him, he just keeps going." This is the model he lived, he never stopped. As one of thirteen children, Uncle Holton enjoyed visits from numerous nieces and nephews, especially the regular dinners with niece, Veronica Lee, and friend Charlie Callahan.

He served as the patriarch and stand-in father for many years after his brothers would pass. Holton is also survived by his sister, Regina Russ, whom he has always credited with getting him through school, and his youngest brother and sister, Mary Jo Jump and Vincent Gannon. Completing the surviving family members are sisters in-law Barbara Gannon, Phyllis Gannon, and Kathryn's sister, Betty Glen, and brother in-law, George Glen. Holton's previously deceased siblings are Anna Mae Rash, Eugene Gannon, William Gannon, Sr., James Leo Gannon, Jr., Clara Herzog, Franklin C. Gannon, Sr., Ethel Marie Dudley, Robert Gannon, Sr. and Edwin F. Gannon.

Family and friends may pay respect on Friday, October 20, at the Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home in Centreville, MD, from 6 – 8 pm. Services will be held at Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church in Centreville on Saturday, October 21, at 11 am. Burial will follow at St. Peter's Catholic Cemetery in Queenstown, MD.

Memorial contributions may be made to Compass Regional Hospice, 160 Coursevall Dr., Centreville, MD 21617.

Cemetery Details

St. Peter's Catholic Cemetery

5319 Ocean Gateway
Queenstown, MD 21658

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **20**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Centreville Location
408 South Liberty Street
Centreville, MD 21617
(410) 758-1151
info@fhnfuneralhome.com

Funeral Liturgy

OCT **21**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Our Mother of Sorrows Church
303 Chesterfield Avenue
Centreville, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - October 19, 2017 at 02:07 PM



“ *Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM

SM

“ I Weill always remember being welcomed to my new assignment by a big hug and contagious smile in the back of Our Mother of Sorrows. When I was rehabilitating from surgery, Holton and Kathryn drove across the bridge to Baltimore to see me. They have kept in touch with me these last ten years since I left Centreville. God speed, my friend. I love you dearly. Sr, Dianne

sr. Dianne Livingstone MSHS - October 21, 2017 at 10:44 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr..



October 20, 2017 at 10:55 AM

HS

“ I extend my sincere condolences to Kathryn and Family. Holton will surely be missed by his many friends and family. I always looked forward to discussions with him over the years at various functions. He made the Schauber/Macgrogan family reunions fun for me. His big hardy smile and laugh made me feel welcome and part of the family. During the family reunions, I'll always remember....that he would offer to buy me drink before we finished greeting each other! Then we were off to the races, catching up on the status of corn crops, crabbing and other current events. I enjoyed him so much and I will surely miss him. Godspeed and rest in peace my friend!



Henry Siler - October 19, 2017 at 09:20 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr..*



October 19, 2017 at 12:33 PM



“ *Janet Pauls lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



Janet Pauls - October 18, 2017 at 01:11 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr..*



October 18, 2017 at 10:20 AM



“ *Debe Churay Voshell lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



Debe Churay Voshell - October 18, 2017 at 09:03 AM

PS

“ *Mr and Mrs Gannon were devoted, hard working members of Our Mother of Sorrows parish, and I always enjoyed being with them. To all the family and especially to Mrs Gannon and Bradford, a great friend of my brother's, I extend sincere sympathy. It was sad to learn of the loss of Mr Gannon.*

Peggy Rhodes Stanley - October 18, 2017 at 08:49 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr..*



October 18, 2017 at 08:33 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr..*



October 18, 2017 at 08:33 AM



“ *Sandy Elizabeth lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



Sandy Elizabeth - October 18, 2017 at 06:40 AM



My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Sandy (Seward) Fish

Sandy Elizabeth - October 18, 2017 at 06:41 AM

AB

A beloved grandfather. May your family always have the gift of wonderful memories to last you a life time. My deepest condolences. - Annette Blackwood

Annette Blackwood - October 18, 2017 at 10:29 AM

DJ

“ *David Alexander Jr. lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



David Alexander Jr. - October 17, 2017 at 10:15 PM

BS

“ *Bobbi Shown lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



Bobbi Shown - October 17, 2017 at 09:30 PM

MR

“ *Uncle Holton will be missed by so many. We send our thoughts and prayers to Aunt Kitty and all the family.*



Mike, Marilou Russ - October 17, 2017 at 06:16 PM

SE

“ Dear Kathryn and families, I have a great respect for all the Gannon families. I treasured the many times I was at the farm and of course the stories I heard from all of you. Our prayers are with the family.
Spencer and Barbara Everett



Spencer Everett - October 17, 2017 at 05:38 PM

MU

“ Marie Usilton lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.



Marie Usilton - October 17, 2017 at 04:13 PM

KL

“ Sorry for your loss. With love and sympathy,
Josh, Kerry, Hayden and Jase.



Kerry Legg - October 17, 2017 at 04:06 PM

RJ

“ ROBIN JOINER lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.



ROBIN JOINER - October 17, 2017 at 03:23 PM

DJ

“ Dawn Jones lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.



Dawn Jones - October 17, 2017 at 12:30 PM

FP

“ Frank & Tish Palmatary sent a virtual gift in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.



Frank & Tish Palmatary - October 17, 2017 at 11:01 AM

TB

“ Tim And Esther Blackiston sent a virtual gift in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.



Tim and Esther Blackiston - October 17, 2017 at 11:00 AM

KH

“ Kim Honeycutt lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.



Kim Honeycutt - October 17, 2017 at 09:38 AM

BV

“ Goodbye Uncle Holton. You will be missed.
May you rest in Peace.
My thoughts and prayers are with Aunt
Kathryn and the whole family.
Bob Voshell



Bob Voshell - October 17, 2017 at 09:19 AM

GP

“ Gene & Lynda Palmatary sent a virtual gift in
memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.



Gene & Lynda Palmatary - October 17, 2017 at 09:01 AM

GP

Ms. Kitty and family: Our many thoughts and prayers are with you at
this time in the loss of Mr. Holton. He will surely be missed in the
community and especially that laugh and smile. It was always great to
see both of you and have a good chat. May God give you the strength
and love to get through this difficult time. God Bless, Gene and Lynda
Palmatary

Gene Palmatary - October 17, 2017 at 09:03 AM

BC

“ Brittanie & Andy Collier lit a candle in memory
of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.



Brittanie & Andy Collier - October 17, 2017 at 09:00 AM

DC

“ *David And June Clark lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



David and June Clark - October 17, 2017 at 08:48 AM

MF

“ *Matthew And Roxanne Dean And Family lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



Matthew and Roxanne Dean and Family - October 17, 2017 at 08:08 AM

JB

“ *The family and friends are in our prayers.*



Jack and Anne Bigelow - October 17, 2017 at 07:34 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr..*



October 16, 2017 at 10:57 PM

JB

“ So sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers are with everyone during this difficult time.

Barbara and Jacquie Blevins

Jacquelyn Blevins - October 16, 2017 at 10:52 PM

BP

“ *Brian Phipps purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr..*



Brian Phipps - October 16, 2017 at 10:26 PM

BM

“ *Brenda J Mohn lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



Brenda J Mohn - October 16, 2017 at 10:11 PM

DC

“ *David Clark lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



David Clark - October 16, 2017 at 10:05 PM



“ Steven Mccarty lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.



steven mccarty - October 16, 2017 at 09:24 PM



“ #2 from Mike (because his post would not on one page) continued
He helped me realize that your name is often worth more than any amount of money. There was not a single interaction that I didn't learn something from Holton Gannon.
"Lord willing" I'll see you again Pop Pop. You were my best friend I'm sure going to miss you.

Monica Matthews - October 16, 2017 at 09:22 PM



“ #1 Facebook post from my son Michael Wade,
Like every Saturday I went to help my Pop Pop. Typically we'd go run everyone's trash to the dump but yesterday we didn't. We just sat down, had breakfast, talked about life and whatever nonsense came up. Like usual, I'd ask when they were going to cut his corn and he'd get worked up saying he hoped soon. He knew this was the best corn crop he had ever grown. He'd dream out loud hoping for 200 bushels per acre...BUT, if the guys he hired to cut it didn't come soon, he was gonna call someone else.

Once we were finished with breakfast, he grabbed his golf cart and we began our usual attack of all the little farm tasks that needed done. He wanted Josh and me thin his trees out. He'd point, we'd cut. As we were cleaning up the brush, the combine showed up! Finally they were going to cut his corn.

After chatting with the guys who were cutting the crops, they told him they would maybe do some today but for sure this week. They left and out of the blue Matt showed up. He and Chris were working at Uncle Joes tennant house and needed some tools. After chatting for a few minutes, his good friend Mr. Palmatory showed up unannounced to say hi. Eventually he left and Pop pop wanted to go see what Chris was working on. I hopped in his golf cart and would follow Matt and Josh to the tenant house to help Chris. He told me his golf cart could go 30 mph, I told him he was full of it. Matt was riding along side us and clocked our speed... 5 MPH... "C'mon you bitch. Something ain't right with this damn thing!" We laughed the whole way up the driveway to the tenant house. "See, I told you we'd make it, and they hardly beat us."

Once we made it to the house that Chris was working at, he turned on his charm and flirted with the tenant as he did with most women. He sat back on the cart, told us how to do it, and chuckled as we ignored his instruction and swung away with the sledge hammer and kicked down the old fence. We got the job done and we started back to his house. I was still teasing him about the slow cart and he was still cussing it. I thought that I need to get video of this, something I often did. I pulled my phone out of my pocket and the camera was on so I snapped this picture. After the picture I turned

on snap chat and he asked to send a video to Emily. "Emily it's not too late to change your mind!" We laughed some more and pulled into his driveway. Uncle Lawrence was leaving and swerved like he was going to hit us and as usual Pop pop called him a fart and said that he plays too much. Then we pulled the cart in the shed. Every Saturday, we would have the same conversation as I was leaving. "Come on in, let Mom Mom fix you some lunch." I'd tell him thanks but no thanks. "You don't have to rush off" but I'd talk about stuff I need to do at home... "You need my help?" But I rarely did. At this point he'd shake my hand and say "Man, you don't know how much I appreciate it, seriously." I'd say that I was happy I could help. He'd respond "what do I owe you?" As always, I'd give a very outlandishly high number and his response was always one of two things "is that all?" Or "if I had it, I'd give it to you". He would always then offer me to fill my vehicle up with gas and make some kind of joke about remembering me in his will. The conversation always ended with me saying that I'll see you next Saturday. His response was always "lord willing"...but yesterday he didn't say it. I left and shortly after the guys came back to cut his corn. They took him for a ride in the combine and he loved it. Early talk is that he was averaging as much as 220 bushel per acre. He got off the tractor and left us shortly after. Yesterday was a great day until it wasn't. My grandfather was one of the most incredible people you'd ever meet. He taught me so much in my life. He taught me to never say never, to work hard, to love your family unconditionally to not worry about the problem but to find the solution.

Monica Matthews - October 16, 2017 at 09:20 PM

TJ

“ *Tom And Nancy Lee Jewell lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



Tom and Nancy Lee Jewell - October 16, 2017 at 06:36 PM



“ *Jim Ewing lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



Jim Ewing - October 16, 2017 at 05:38 PM

MU

“ *Mary Ellen Unruh lit a candle in memory of Holton Joseph Gannon Sr.*



Mary Ellen Unruh - October 16, 2017 at 03:03 PM

AH

*Lathern and I enjoyed the times we were together in the late 1970's.
My deepest sympathy to all of you.*

Ava Honeycutt

Ava Honeycutt - October 19, 2017 at 08:18 PM